

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND RECOVERY
OFFICE OF PROGRAM SERVICES
PROGRAM PROFILE

Children's Transition Initiative 2

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Who Can I Contact At DBHR For More Information?

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Program Description:

The Children's Transition Initiative (CTI) represents collaboration between DBHR and participating counties to identify and enroll children in comprehensive prevention services for a minimum of ten consecutive months. Counties currently piloting the initiative include Ferry/Stevens, Lincoln, Island, San Juan, Snohomish and Spokane. The goal of the CTI is to prevent children with multiple risk factors, ages 9-13, from using alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, and other drugs.

The primary outcome objectives include:

- Enrolled youth will demonstrate a reduction in risk factors including anti-social behavior and lack of commitment to school and an increase in protective factors including bonding with individuals and opportunity for pro-social involvement. Reducing these risk factors and enhancing these protective factors will lead to an improved ability to resist alcohol and other drugs.
- There will be an increase in awareness of risk and protective factors associated with substance abuse by the parents or caregivers of children participating in the CTI.
- Eighty percent of students enrolled in the CTI will be retained in the initiative for a minimum of ten months.

CTI 2 is the latest iteration of the pilot initiative that was negotiated through a collaborative process between DBHR and participating counties. In an effort to fine tune the focus of the program design, participating counties agreed to provide mentoring services to multiple-risk youth for 10-21 months during the 2007-2009 funding cycle. A family component is also provided to the families of mentees. Many of the counties offer Strengthening Families 10-14, or Staying Connected with Your Teen, Best Practice parenting curricula. With the ultimate goal of attaining a truly comprehensive program design, it is also hoped that additional funding will be accessed to allow for the implementation of a Best Practice school-based curriculum, Bry's Behavioral Monitoring and Reinforcement, as well as an environmental component in the participants' schools. DBHR is supporting a cross-site evaluation of CTI 2 by providing the expertise of the DBHR Prevention Researcher to guide all aspects of program design and implementation.

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What Populations are Served/ Who Is Eligible for These Services?

Children and youth with multiple risk factors, ages 9-13, and their families.

How Many People are Served During the Biennium?

CTI provides services to approximately 70 children and their family members during the biennium.

What is the Biennial Funding Amount and Source(s)?

\$80,000 of federal Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant funds biennially are used for travel, cost reimbursements, training, and evaluation services. Counties also leverage local resources to maximize service delivery to enrolled youth and their families.

What would be the Impact If This Program was No Longer Available?

CTI provides a unique opportunity to assess the efficacy of long-term services to multiple-risk populations. The lessons learned from the participating counties help advance the prevention system in Washington State.

What Agencies Collaborate with DBHR to Deliver These Services?

DBHR received technical assistance from DSHS Research and Data Analysis (RDA) during the development of CTI. Washington Mentors has provided training opportunities for county program staff and mentors. Also, participating counties often rely on collaborative relationships with local agencies, including schools, to maximize the delivery of CTI services.